

**AMENDMENTS**

***In the Claims:***

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

- 1           1.       (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:  
2           a housing having a substantially vertical source-contact surface with a member  
3           forming a channel that protrudes from the housing, said ~~channel~~ member having a first  
4           surface side that is substantially parallel to, and opposed from, said source-contact  
5           surface, said ~~channel~~ member having a second ~~surface~~ side substantially orthogonal to  
6           the first ~~surface~~ side, wherein the member extends to an exterior surface of said housing;  
7           and  
8           a flap coupled to the source-contact surface, the flap having a source-backing  
9           surface substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the housing, wherein the  
10          source-contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the first and second ~~surface~~ sides  
11          of the ~~channel~~ member form an aperture for receiving an edge of a source to be scanned.
- 1           2.       (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein a portion of the  
2           vertical source-contact surface of the housing comprises a platen to permit scanning of a  
3           source document in a vertical position.
- 1           3.       (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein a front panel of  
2           the housing ~~includes~~ comprises an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture.
- 1           4.       (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the flap ~~includes~~  
2           comprises an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture.
- 1           5.       (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the flap ~~includes~~  
2           comprises a slot.

1           6.       (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the source-  
2 backing surface of the flap ~~includes~~ comprises a clip arranged to receive a portion of a  
3 source document to be scanned.

1           7.       (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the housing  
2 further comprises a recess configured to receive a portion of the ~~channel~~ member when  
3 an operator closely adjusts the source contact surface to the substantially vertical surface  
4 of the housing.

1           8.       (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 2, wherein the platen has an  
2 upper edge, an opposing lower edge, a front edge relatively coexistent with a front panel  
3 of the housing, and a distal edge and wherein the ~~channel~~ member is adjacent to the  
4 lower edge of the platen.

1           9.       (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 3, wherein the ~~channel~~  
2 member has a first end proximal to a the front panel of the housing and a distal end that  
3 extends at least to an edge of the platen.

1           10.      (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 4, wherein the flap is  
2 coupled to the housing with at least one post assembly having a plurality of spatially  
3 separated detent positions.

1           11.      (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 4, wherein the flap is  
2 coupled to the housing with at least one adjustable fastener for closely contacting the  
3 source-backing surface to the vertical source-contact surface.

1           12.      (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 5, wherein the slot is  
2 positioned to permit the placement of a relatively short source document on edge on the  
3 ~~channel member~~ wherein such that information to be scanned is aligned with at least a  
4 portion of a platen.

1           13.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 7, wherein the housing is  
2 configured to extend the ~~channel~~ member away from the vertical source-contact surface  
3 when an operator adjusts the source-backing surface in relation to the vertical source-  
4 contact surface of the housing to increase the width of the aperture.

1           14.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 2, wherein the width of a  
2 first end of the ~~channel~~ member proximal to a front panel of the housing increases over a  
3 ~~that portion of the channel~~ length of the member ~~that extends beyond the platen.~~

1           15.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 9, wherein the ~~channel~~  
2 member is coated with a layer of material having a relatively low coefficient of friction.

1           16.     (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:  
2 means for housing an optical scanning means; and  
3 means for forming an aperture configured to closely receive a leading edge of a  
4 source, such that the source can be spatially arranged with the optical scanning means  
5 without adjusting the aperture, the source being supported along a ~~second~~ horizontal edge  
6 different from the leading edge of said source along a channel means ~~when the source is~~  
7 ~~aligned with the means for optically scanning while in the aperture and spatially arranged~~  
8 ~~with the means for optically scanning, wherein said channel means protrudes from said~~  
9 ~~means for housing and comprises a source retaining means substantially parallel to, and~~  
10 ~~opposed from, said optical scanning means and a source support means substantially~~  
11 ~~orthogonal to said source retaining means.~~

1           17.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 16, wherein ~~the~~ a source  
2 retaining means of said channel means extends vertically from a base of said channel  
3 means ~~and said source support means is substantially parallel to said base of said channel~~  
4 ~~means.~~

1           18.     (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the means for  
2 forming an aperture comprises a flap having a slot.

1           19.     (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the means for  
2 forming an aperture comprises a first inclined surface associated with a housing and a  
3 second inclined surface associated with a flap.

1           20.     (Currently Amended) A method for saving space on a desktop,  
2 comprising:

3           providing an optical scanner having a housing, the housing having a substantially  
4 vertical source-contact surface with a member forming a channel protruding from the  
5 housing, ~~the channel having a surface that is substantially parallel to, and opposed from,~~  
6 ~~said source-contact surface, the vertical source-contact surface including a transparent~~  
7 ~~platen portion, wherein the channel is adjacent to a lower edge of the transparent platen~~  
8 ~~portion and further comprises a second surface substantially orthogonal to the first~~  
9 ~~surface; and~~

10           providing coupling a flap ~~coupled~~ to the source-contact surface, the flap having a  
11 slot extending to an edge of the flap and source-backing surface substantially parallel to  
12 the source-contact surface of the housing, wherein the source-contact surface, the source-  
13 backing surface, and the ~~first and second surfaces of the channel~~ member form an  
14 aperture for horizontally receiving a source to be scanned.

1           21.     (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, further comprising  
2 inserting a leading edge of a source to be scanned into the aperture formed by the source-  
3 contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the ~~channel~~ member such that a  
4 horizontal edge of the source different from the leading edge is supported along a ~~second~~  
5 ~~edge by the channel~~ member.

1           22.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising  
2 spatially arranging the flap and the housing wherein pressure is applied to a non-scan  
3 surface of the source and the scan surface of the source closely contacts the transparent  
4 platen portion.

1           23.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising  
2 enabling the optical scanner to scan the source.

1           24.     (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising spatially arranging  
2 the flap and the housing wherein pressure is removed from the non-scan surface of the  
3 source.

1           25.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising  
2 removing the source from the aperture.

1           26.     (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:  
2 a housing having a substantially vertical source-contact surface;  
3 a member forming a channel protruding from the housing, ~~said channel having a~~  
4 ~~first surface that is substantially parallel to, and opposed from, said source-contact~~  
5 ~~surface and a second surface that is substantially orthogonal to the first surface; and~~  
6 a flap coupled to the housing, the flap having a source-backing surface  
7 substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the housing, wherein the source-  
8 contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the ~~first and second surfaces of the~~  
9 ~~channel~~ member form an aperture for horizontally receiving ~~an edge of~~ a source to be  
10 scanned without necessitating relative movement between the flap and the housing.

1           27.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the housing  
2 contains a front panel with an inclined surface adjacent to the ~~opening~~ aperture, the  
3 inclined surface forming a wider opening at the surface of the front panel.

1           28.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap  
2 ~~includes~~ comprises an inclined surface adjacent to the opening, the inclined surface  
3 arranged to increase the opening along a front edge of the flap, wherein the front edge is  
4 substantially perpendicular to the source-backing surface.

1           29.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap  
2 ~~includes~~ comprises a slot.

1           30.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 29, wherein the slot is  
2 positioned to permit the placement of a relatively short source document on edge on said

3 ~~channel member~~ and wherein information to be scanned from the source document is  
4 aligned with at least a portion of a platen.

1 31. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the housing  
2 further comprises a recess configured to receive a portion of said ~~channel member~~ when  
3 the source-backing surface is in close proximity to the source-contact surface.

1 32. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 26, wherein said ~~channel~~  
2 member has a first end proximal to a front panel of the housing and a distal end that  
3 extends at least to a distal edge of a platen.

1 33. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap is  
2 coupled to the housing with at least one post assembly having a plurality of spatially-  
3 separated detent positions.

1 34. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the ~~housing is~~  
2 ~~configured to extend said channel member moves relative to~~ the source-contact surface  
3 when an operator adjusts the source-backing surface in relation to the source-contact  
4 surface to increase the width of the aperture.

1 35. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the width of  
2 said ~~channel member at a first end of said channel proximal to a front panel of the~~  
3 ~~housing increases over that portion of said channel that extends beyond a platen~~ varies  
4 over the length of the member.

1 36. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 26, wherein said ~~channel~~  
2 member is coated with a material having a relatively low coefficient of friction.

1           37.     (Currently Amended) A method for arranging a source in a scanner  
2 comprising:

3           horizontally inserting a leading edge of the source into an aperture formed by a  
4 ~~channel member~~ that protrudes from a housing, ~~the channel having a first surface that is~~  
5 ~~substantially parallel to, and opposed from, a platen of the scanner such that a surface of~~  
6 ~~the source having information thereon that is desired to be imaged by the scanner is~~  
7 ~~adjacent to a sensor arranged in a substantially vertical plane and such that a second edge~~  
8 ~~of the source, different from the leading edge, is supported by a base surface of said~~  
9 ~~channel member, said base surface extending adjacent to an edge of said platen having a~~  
10 ~~width that varies along the length of the member; and~~

11           adjusting the source such that the information desired to be imaged is aligned  
12 with the sensor.

1           38.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, further comprising:  
2 inserting a plug into a slot formed in a flap, the flap substantially parallel with the  
3 platen of the scanner; and  
4 enabling the sensor to scan the information.

1           39.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, further comprising:  
2 removing the plug; and  
3 removing the source from the aperture.

1           40.     (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:  
2 a housing having a substantially vertical source-contact surface;  
3 a flap coupled to the source-contact surface, the flap having a source-backing  
4 surface substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the housing; and  
5 a support ~~track~~ member interposed between said housing and said flap, ~~said~~  
6 ~~support track comprising a first member in juxtaposition with the substantially vertical~~  
7 ~~source-contact surface and the source-contact surface, and extending to a front panel of~~  
8 ~~the housing, wherein the source-contact surface, the source-backing surface, and said~~  
9 ~~support track member form an aperture for horizontally receiving an edge of a source to~~  
10 be scanned without necessitating relative movement between the flap and the housing.

1           41.     (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 40, wherein a portion of  
2     the vertical source-contact surface of the housing comprises a platen to permit scanning  
3     of a source document in a vertical position.

1           42.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 41, wherein the platen has  
2     an upper edge, an opposing lower edge, a front edge relatively coexistent with a front  
3     panel of the housing, and a distal edge and wherein said support ~~track~~ member is adjacent  
4     to the lower edge of the platen.

1           43.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 42, wherein said support  
2     ~~track member~~ has a ~~first end proximal to the front panel of the housing and a distal end~~  
3     that extends at least to the distal edge of the platen.

1           44.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 42, wherein the width of a  
2     ~~first end of said support track member proximal to the front panel of the housing~~  
3     ~~increases over that portion of said support track that extends beyond the platen~~ varies.

1           45.     (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 40, wherein said housing  
2     comprises a front panel having an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture.

1           46.     (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 40, wherein the flap  
2     comprises an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture.

1           47.     (Previously Presented)     The assembly of claim 40, wherein the flap  
2     comprises a slot.

1           48.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 47, wherein the slot is  
2     positioned to permit the placement of a relatively short source document on edge on said  
3     support ~~track~~ member wherein information to be scanned is aligned with at least a  
4     portion of a platen.



1           49.     (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 40, wherein the flap is  
2 coupled to the housing with at least one post assembly having a plurality of spatially  
3 separated detent positions.

1           50.     (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 40, wherein the flap is  
2 coupled to the housing with at least one adjustable fastener for closely contacting the  
3 source-backing surface to the vertical source-contact surface.

1           51.     (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 40, wherein the source-  
2 backing surface of the flap comprises a clip arranged to receive a portion of a source  
3 document to be scanned.

1           52.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 40, wherein the housing  
2 further comprises a recess configured to receive a second member of said support track  
3 member when an operator closely adjusts the source contact surface to the substantially  
4 vertical surface of the housing.

1           53.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 52, wherein the housing is  
2 ~~configured to extend said support track~~ member moves relative to ~~from~~ the vertical  
3 source-contact surface when an operator adjusts the source-backing surface in relation to  
4 the vertical source-contact surface of the housing to increase the width of the aperture.

1           54.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 40, wherein said support  
2 ~~track~~ member is coated with a layer of material having a relatively low coefficient of  
3 friction.

1           55.     (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:  
2           means for housing an optical scanning means; and  
3           means for forming an aperture configured to closely receive a leading edge of a  
4     source transferred horizontally along a plane substantially orthogonal to a front surface of  
5     the means for housing, such that the source can be spatially arranged with the optical  
6     scanning means without adjusting the aperture, the source being supported along a  
7     second edge of said source by a support means in the aperture, said support means  
8     extending to a front panel of the means for housing, wherein said support means is  
9     interposed between a first source-retaining means and said optical scanning means.

1           56.     (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 55, wherein said support  
2     means comprises a second source retaining means substantially parallel to the optical  
3     scanning means.

1           57.     (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 55, wherein the first source  
2     retaining means comprises a flap having a slot.

1           58.     (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 55, wherein the means for  
2     forming an aperture comprises a first inclined surface associated with said means for a  
3     housing and a second inclined surface associated with the first source retaining means.

1           59.     (Currently Amended) A method for saving space on a desktop,  
2 comprising:

3           providing an optical scanner within a housing, the housing having a substantially  
4 vertical source-contact surface with a support track member protruding from the housing,  
5 the support track member ~~having a first member comprising a first source backing~~  
6 ~~surface substantially parallel to, and opposed from, said source contact surface~~ extending  
7 to the exterior of the housing; and

8           providing a flap closely coupled to the source-contact surface, the flap, having a  
9 ~~second source backing surface substantially parallel to the source contact surface of the~~  
10 ~~housing, the second source backing surface substantially parallel to and opposed from, a~~  
11 ~~second surface of the first member, the second source backing surface also opposed to~~  
12 ~~said first source backing surface, wherein the source contact surface, the second source-~~  
13 ~~backing surface, and the first source backing surface form~~ support member, and source-  
14 contact surface forming an aperture for receiving a source moved horizontally to be  
15 scanned.

1           60.     (Currently Amended) The method of claim 59, further comprising  
2 inserting a leading edge of a source to be scanned into the aperture ~~formed by the source-~~  
3 ~~contact surface, the second source backing surface, and the support track such that the~~  
4 ~~source is supported along a second edge by the support track.~~

1           61.     (Currently Amended) The method of claim 60, ~~further comprising~~  
2 ~~spatially arranging the flap and the housing wherein the second source backing surface~~  
3 ~~and the first source backing surface are juxtaposed to a non-scan surface of the source~~  
4 ~~and a scan surface of the source is juxtaposed to the source contact surface~~ wherein  
5 inserting is accomplished absent relative movement between the flap and the housing.

1           62.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 61, further comprising  
2 enabling the optical scanner to scan the source.

1           63.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 62, further comprising  
2 removing the source from the aperture.

1           64.     (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:  
2           a housing having a substantially vertical source-contact surface comprising a  
3     platen;  
4           a flap coupled to the housing, the flap having a source-backing surface  
5     substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the housing; and  
6           a support ~~track~~ member interposed between the source-contact surface and the  
7     source-backing surface proximal to a perimeter segment of the platen, ~~said support track~~  
8     ~~comprising a first member having a first surface juxtaposed from the source-contact~~  
9     ~~surface and a second surface juxtaposed from the source-backing surface and a support~~  
10    ~~member~~, wherein the source-contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the support  
11    ~~track member~~ form an aperture for receiving a first edge of a source ~~to be scanned~~ moved  
12    horizontally without necessitating relative movement between the flap and the housing to  
13    align a second edge of the source with the perimeter segment of the platen.

1           65.     (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 64, wherein the housing  
2     contains a front panel with an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture, the inclined  
3     surface arranged such that the aperture is larger adjacent to the front panel.

1           66.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 64, wherein the flap  
2     ~~includes~~ comprises an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture, the inclined surface  
3     arranged such that the aperture is larger adjacent to a front edge of the flap, wherein the  
4     front edge is substantially perpendicular to the source-backing surface.

1           67.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 64, wherein the flap  
2     ~~includes~~ comprises a slot.

1           68.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 67, wherein the slot is  
2     positioned to permit the placement of a relatively short source document ~~on edge~~ on said  
3     support ~~track~~ member and wherein information to be scanned from the source document  
4     is aligned with at least a portion of the platen.

1           69.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 64, wherein the housing  
2 further comprises a recess configured to receive a portion of said support ~~track~~ member  
3 when the source-backing surface is in close proximity to the source-contact surface.

1           70.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 64, wherein said support  
2 ~~track~~ member has a first end proximal to a front panel of the housing and a distal end that  
3 extends at least to a distal edge of the platen.

1           71.     (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 64, wherein the flap is  
2 coupled to the housing with at least one post assembly having a plurality of spatially-  
3 separated detent positions.

1           72.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 64, wherein the housing is  
2 configured to extend said support ~~track~~ member from the source-contact surface when an  
3 operator adjusts the source-backing surface in relation to the source-contact surface to  
4 increase the width of the aperture.

1           73.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 64, wherein the width of  
2 said support ~~track~~ member ~~at a first end of said support track proximal to a front panel of~~  
3 ~~the housing increases over that portion of said support track that extends beyond the~~  
4 ~~platen~~ varies.

1           74.     (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 64, wherein an upper  
2 surface of said support ~~track~~ member is coated with a material having a relatively low  
3 coefficient of friction.

1           75.     (Currently Amended) A method for arranging a source in a scanner  
2 comprising:  
3           horizontally inserting a leading edge of the source into an aperture formed by a  
4 support track member ~~that protrudes from a housing, the support track comprising a first~~  
5 ~~member and a second member, the first member having a surface that is substantially~~  
6 ~~parallel to, and opposed from, a platen of the scanner~~ interposed between a platen and a  
7 flap such that a surface of the source having information thereon that is desired to be  
8 imaged by the scanner is adjacent to a sensor arranged in a substantially vertical plane  
9 ~~and such that said leading edge is supported by an upper surface of the second member,~~  
10 ~~said upper surface extending adjacent to an edge of said platen; and~~  
11           adjusting the source such that the information desired to be imaged is aligned  
12 with the sensor.

1           76.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 75, further comprising:  
2           inserting a plug into a slot formed in a flap, the flap substantially parallel with the  
3 platen of the scanner; and  
4           enabling the sensor to scan the information.

1           77.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 76, further comprising:  
2           removing the plug; and  
3           removing the source from the aperture.